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FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4657
INFO RUEHHE/ARAB LEAGUE COLLECTIVE
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 1036
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY 0722
RUEHVT/AMEMBASSY VALLETTA PRIORITY 0401
RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY 0502
RUCPDOC/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHINGTON DC
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC
RHEHAAA/NSC WASHINGTON DC
RUEHTRO/AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI 5184

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 TRIPOLI 000258

SIPDIS

STATE PLEASE PASS USTR; STATE FOR NEA MAG; ENERGY FOR GINA ERICKSON; MASON AND HISHAM ELKOUSTAF; CAIRO FOR TREASURY LIAISON ALEX SEVERENS; LONDON AND PARIS FOR NEA WATCHERS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 3/24/2019 TAGS: [LY](#) [ECON](#) [EAGR](#) [EPET](#) [EFIN](#) [PGOV](#) [ETRD](#)

[¶1.](#) (C) Summary: On March 24, the Ambassador met with Mohammad Ali al-Hweij, the recently-appointed Secretary of the General People's Committee CATERPILLAR BAN: SOLUTION IS MULTIPLE AGENTS AND NO RELATIVES OF GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS

[¶2.](#) (C) Responding to the Ambassador's urging that the Caterpillar issue had to be resolved expeditiously, Al-Hweij said he was aware of the pr U.S. COMPANIES ARE WELCOME TO INVEST IN FREE ZONES

[¶3.](#) (C) Al-Hweij said Libya would like American firms to invest in "industrial" zones, such as the Zwara Export Free Zone (ref B), and that he AL-HWEIJ PLEDGES HELP ON VISAS

[¶4.](#) (C) The Ambassador informed al-Hweij that the U.S. Embassy's consular section would be issuing U.S. visas to the general public by the end USG PROGRAMS: COMMERCIAL LAW DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, U.S. TRADE DELEGATION, AGRICULTURE

[¶5.](#) (C) Al-Hweij said the Department of Commerce's program to improve the commercial legal environment fit into the Libyan government's program

[¶6.](#) (C) Comment: The newly-appointed Secretary for Industry, Economy and Trade appears determined to resolve the Caterpillar import ban issue.